ASUKA COMICS DX

ピンクとグレー

1

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STORY

小学生の時に出逢ったりばちゃんとごっちは、
中学高校大学と密接した青春時代を送ってきた。
しかし、雑誌の読者モデルをきっかけにバイトで始めた芸能活動から、
徐々に2人の歯車が狂いだし…。
芸能界を舞台に〝成功と挫折〟それぞれの道を歩む、
親友同士の儚く切ない人生を描いた等身大青春ストーリー!!

NEWS・加藤シゲアキ衝撃の話題作、ついにコミカライズ。
巻末には本人によるあとがきを収録。

ASUKA COMICS DX

NEWS' KATO SHIGEAKI'S
SHOCKING DEBUT WORK!! THE LONG-AWAITED COMIC VERSION!!

WHO IS THIS BEAUTIFUL PERSON?

WHERE DID THE PERSON IN MY MEMORY GO?

ピンクとグレー

PINK TO GRAY

CHAPTER 3: CORN SOUP

ORIGINAL WORK: KATO SHIGEAKI (NEWS)

ARTIST: FUJISAKI MIO

IT'S BEEN ALMOST 6 YEARS SINCE I LAST MET HIM HERE.
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST CAME TO SHIBUYA STATION.
THE SQUARE PILLARS STANDING RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MAIN FARE GATES.
IT WAS DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL THAT WE STARTED CALLING THE SIDE WHERE THE FARE GATES ARE, "*DU PONT."
AT THAT TIME, A POSTER OF A POPULAR TV DRAMA WAS POSTED ON THE PILLAR,
AND WE WERE COMPLETELY DRAWN INTO THE LIGHTER USED BY THE MAIN ACTOR.

*TL: THE FUL NAME IS "ST DUPONT", WHICH IS A COMPANY THAT MAKES LIGHTERS. IT'S A ADVERTISEMENT REFERENCE.

COMPARED TO MY MEMORY OF HIM, HE HAD BECOME MORE BEAUTIFUL AND TONED
AND LOOKING DOWN FROM HIS BABY FACE, THE SPACE BETWEEN HIS MUSCLES WERE DEFINED.
CLICK
an
SHIRAKI RENGO
TALKING ABOUT SEX BY BARING IT ALL
AND NOW HERE HE IS AT DU PONT.

BUNK
ON SALE TODAY, THE MUCH TALKED ABOUT NUDE OF SHIRAKI RENGO!!
SQUEAL
SAVED
FLINCH
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
GOING ON SALE AROUND THE SAME TIME,
THE MAGAZINE WITH HIS NUDE AND THE WEEKLY GOSSIP MAGAZINE,
BOTH BOLDLY FEATURED HIS NAME.

I WOULD SAY I'M RATHER LOW KEY WHEN IT COMES TO ROMANCE.
IT JUST MIGHT BE THAT I'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN IN LOVE.
THUMP
FLIP
THUMP
I WONDER WHAT SHE'LL THINK IF SHE READ THIS.
HE'S NEVER TRULY BEEN IN LOVE?

SCOOP ON
SHIRAKI RENGO
IN A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH KARIN

FRI

EVEN AFTER HIS RELATIONSHIP WAS REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC, HIS POPULARITY DIDN'T GO DOWN.
THAT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE IT WAS WITH KARIN, A POP PRINCESS BOASTING NATION WIDE POPULARITY.
THUMP
BLACK HAT AND BLACK ENGINEER BOOTS.
THUMP
6
SWAY
IS THIS REALLY GOCCHI...?
THUMP
ha ha ha...
SERIOUS-LY?

DURING OUR SECOND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE FINAL EXAMS, WE WALKED DOWN THIS VERY PATH,
AND IN FRONT OF DU PONT, WE DISCUSSED OUR FUTURE.
AHH— IT'S FINALLY DONE.
the test
WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR LUNCH? OMURICE AT RAKERU? RAMEN AT ICHIRAN? OR MCDONALD'S?
HMMM ...
BUT THAT ASIDE, WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS FOR OVER 30 MINUTE NOW.
BUT..
GOCCHI WAS EXTREMELY INDECISIVE.
SINCE WE CAN'T SEEM TO DECIDE, WHY DON'T WE PLAY A GAME TO DECIDE.
SURE, WHAT KIND OF GAME?
WELL, UM...

I GOT IT.
THEN WHY DON'T WE GO FOR OMURICE IF THE PERSON WHO PASSES THROUGH THE THIRD FARE GATE FROM THE LEFT IS A GIRL.
AND IF IT'S A GUY WE GO FOR RAMEN?
I THINK IT'S NICE AND SIMPLE.
BUT WHAT ABOUT MCDO-NALD'S?
THEN, WE'LL GO TO MCDONALD'S IF WE CAN'T TELL THEIR GENDER.
SO THEN I GUESS NO MCDONALD'S, SOUNDS GOOD.
YOU NEVER KNOW.
BEEP
BEEP
FLAP
WHOOSH
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S GONNA COME THROUGH.
I GUESS WE'RE GOING TO RAMEN.
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE WATCHING A HORSE-RACE.

!!
WHOOSH
HA!
LET'S DO IT AGAIN. THIS TIME WITH PEOPLE ENTERING THE STATION USING THE SECOND ONE FROM THE LEFT.
EH— BUT THERE'S NO POINT.
LET'S JUST DO IT.
EXCUSE ME...
ERM ...
ERM ...
THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!
UNEXPECTED, BUT OMURICE IT IS, RIVA-CHAN.
So exciting!!
9
!
SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING.
IT'S THE WOMAN WHO JUST PASSED THROUGH THE FARE GATE.
THIS... IS WHAT I DO.

YOU'RE AN EDITOR FOR A FASHION MAGAZINE?
FOR OUR SPECIAL FEATURE FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE, WE'RE IN A RUSH TO FIND GOOD LOOKING MALE STUDENTS FROM FAMOUS HIGH SCHOOLS.
IF YOU GUYS WANT TO, WOULD YOU LIKE TO APPEAR IN IT?
IT WOULD REALLY BE A BIG HELP TO US IF YOU AGREE TO DO THIS.
!

Ummm...
I'M NOT SO SURE...
SURE
Without much thought

GOCCHI!?
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO IF THE GIRLS IN OUR SCHOOL SEE IT?
ISN'T IT EMBARRASS-ING?
Posing as a good looking male!!
WHO CARES. IT'S GOOD TO DO THINGS OUT OF CHARACTER.
AND BESIDES, THOSE PEOPLE REALLY SEEM TO BE PRESSED FOR TIME.

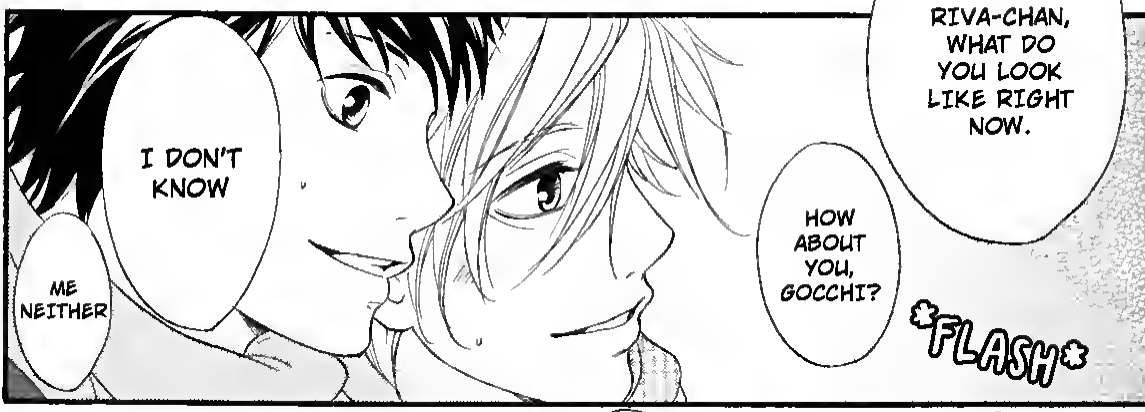
NOH MASK!!
SO I GUESS IT IS OMURICE FOR LUNCH AFTER ALL.
WHOA. HAVEN'T SEE NOH MASK FOR A WHILE.
NO IT'S MCDONALD'S FOR UNKNOWN GENDER.
Second one from the left
WHOOSH
AHH
EH?
SO MEAN, BUT I GOTTA AGREE.
hehehe
Uh...
?
I KNOW.
IF YOU TREAT US TO MCDONALD'S, WE'LL DO IT.
GOCC...

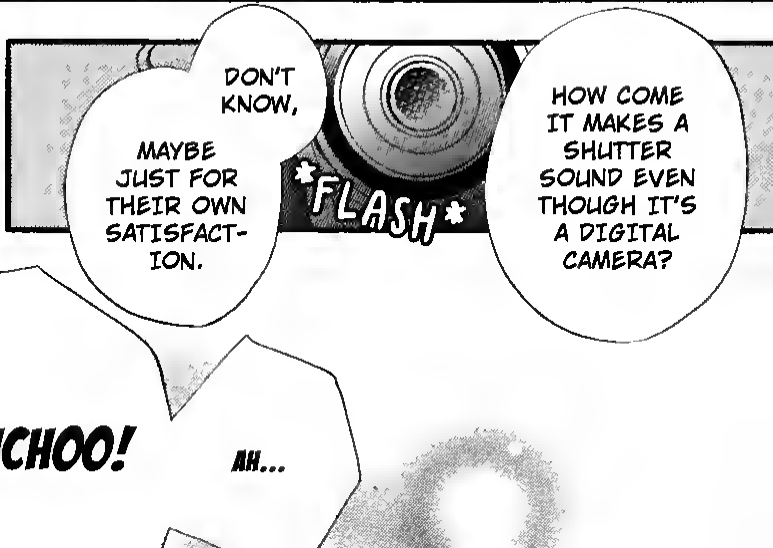
"THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO DO IT"

GOCCHI'S DECIDING FACTOR IN THESE SITUATIONS IS....

IS THERE A GOOD PARK NEARBY...?
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WALK.
QUITE POSSIBLY, COULD IT BE THAT YOU GUYS HAVEN'T DECIDED ON THE PHOTO SHOOT LOCATION.
...SO
EXCUSE ME.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, THERE'S A PARK WE ALWAYS GO TO.
Right
AND THERE AREN'T THAT MANY PEOPLE THERE.
True
IT'S A GREAT PLACE! THIS WILL DO.
CITY OF SHIBUYA MITAKE
BUT SINCE WE DIDN'T GET A PERMIT TO PHOTOGRAPH HERE, OKAMURA -SAN, PLEASE BE QUICK ABOUT IT.
OKAY~
ALRIGHT, SO WHY DON'T YOU GUYS PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND EACH OTHER.
SMILE PLEASE.
WHAT

FLASH
FLASH

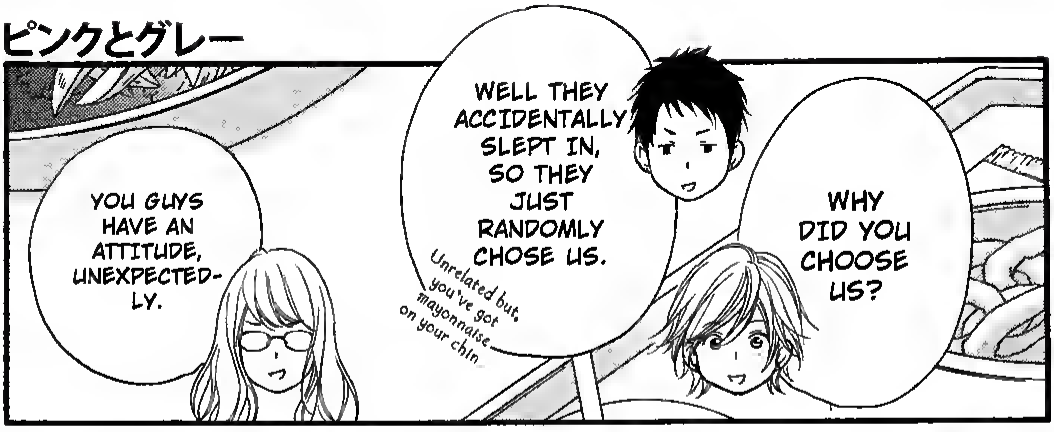

RIVA-CHAN, WHAT DO YOU LOOK LIKE RIGHT NOW.
HOW ABOUT YOU, GOCCHI?
FLASH
I DON'T KNOW
ME NEITHER

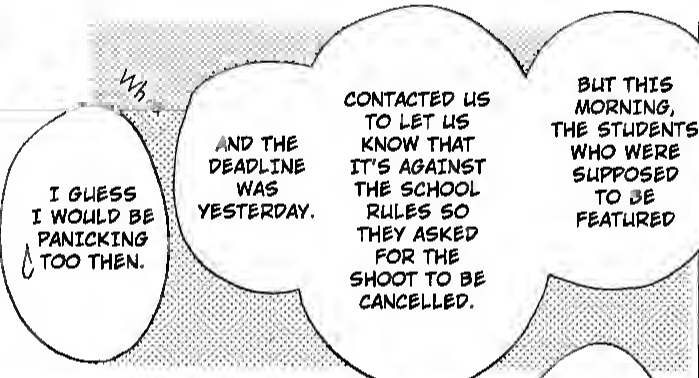

HOW COME IT MAKES A SHUTTER SOUND EVEN THOUGH IT'S A DIGITAL CAMERA?
FLASH
DON'T KNOW, MAYBE JUST FOR THEIR OWN SATISFACT-ION.
AHCHOO!
AH...

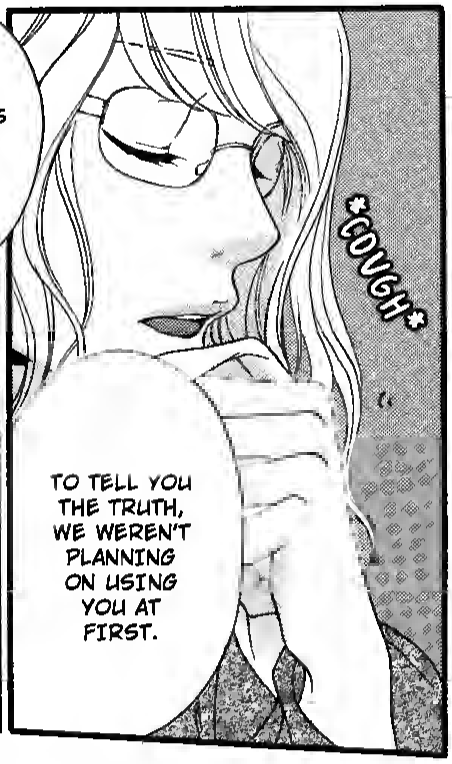
SORRY, SORRY.
I have hay fever...
BEEP
WE'LL FINISH OFF HERE FOR NOW.
SNIFFLE
BEEP
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
OKAY
OKAY
BEEP
Mission accomplished?
Seems like it.
EXCELLENT!
15

ALRIGHT,
YOU CAN EAT WHATEVER YOU WANT.
THEN I WANT THE CHEESE BURGER.
I WANT THE AVOCADO BURGER.
Okamura-san, can you please go buy it.
OKAY
...
ALSO, 2 CHICKEN NUGGETS EACH.
AND ALSO, 2 COKES, FRENCH FRIES AND ONION RINGS.

WOW!
WHAT ARE YOU GOOD AT?
Hmm—....
I GUESS GUITAR.
THEN I GUESS SINGING ...?
FIRST OF ALL, WHAT IS YOUR NAME, BIRTHDAY AND BLOOD TYPE?
SO, CAN YOU GUYS ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS WHILE YOU EAT?
OF COURSE IT TASTES GOOD, BURGERS THAT COST 25 TIMES MORE THAN MCDONALD'S.

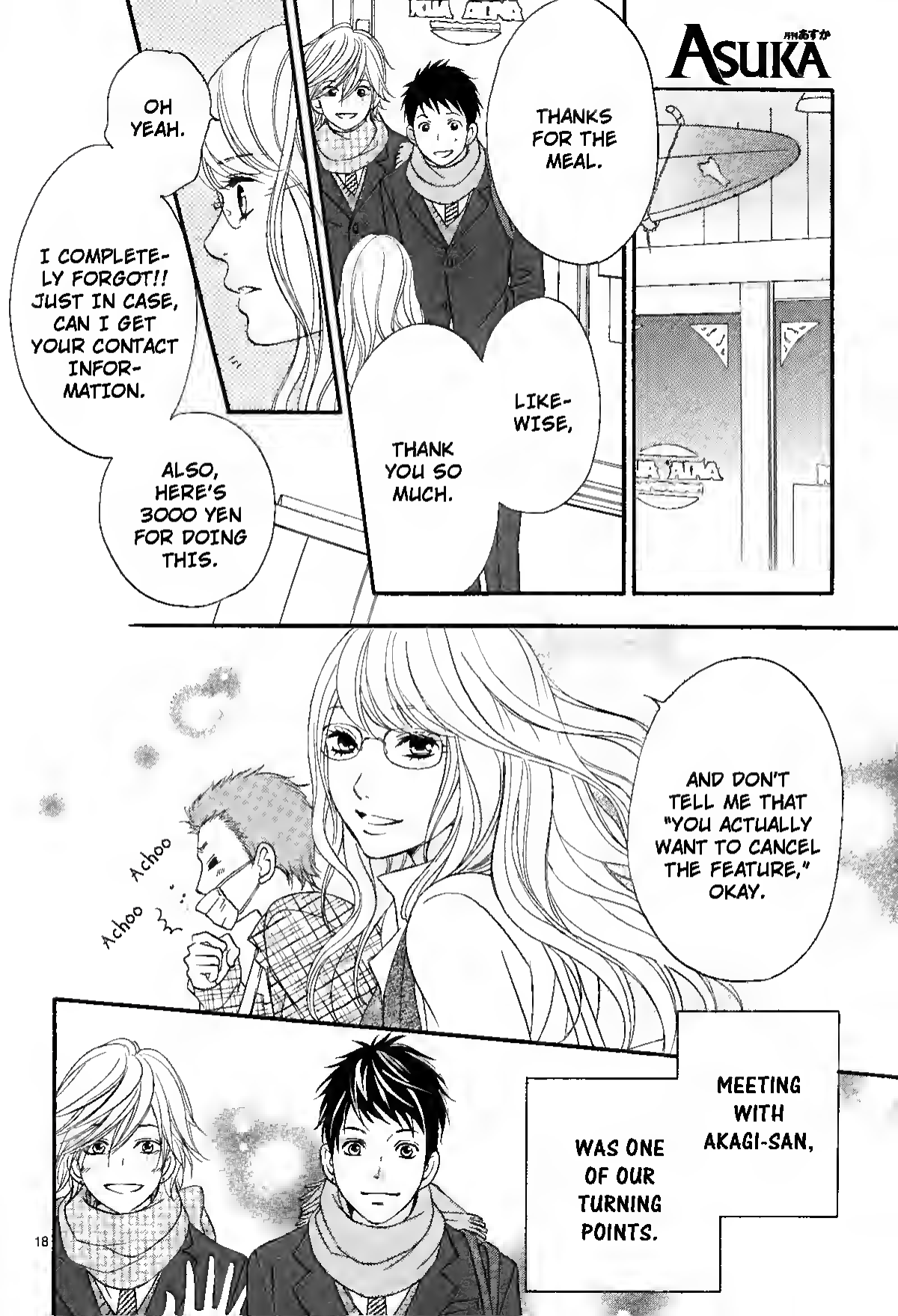

YOU GUYS HAVE AN ATTITUDE, UNEXPECTEDLY.
WELL THEY ACCIDENTALLY SLEPT IN, SO THEY JUST RANDOMLY CHOSE US.
Unrelated but, you've got mayonnaise on your chin
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE US?


Wh
I GUESS I WOULD BE PANICKING TOO THEN.
AND THE DEADLINE WAS YESTERDAY.
CONTACTED US TO LET US KNOW THAT IT'S AGAINST THE SCHOOL RULES SO THEY ASKED FOR THE SHOOT TO BE CANCELLED.
BUT THIS MORNING, THE STUDENTS WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO BE FEATURED


COUGH
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WE WEREN'T PLANNING ON USING YOU AT FIRST.

YOUR SCHOOL IS OKAY WITH WORK IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY RIGHT.

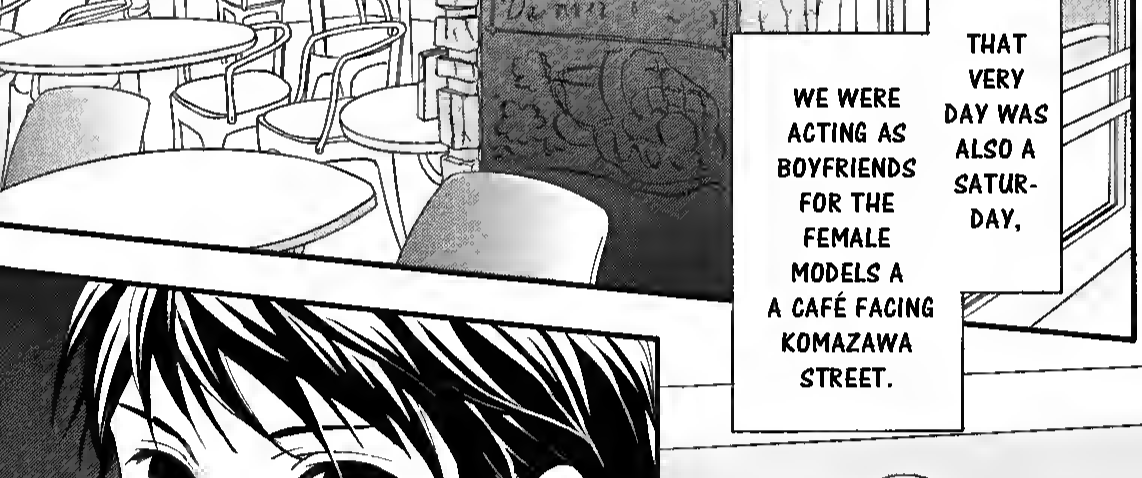
SO, WE DECIDED TO PINPOINT OUR TARGET AND COME OUT TO SHIBUYA TO LOOK FOR THEM.
AND THE MOMENT I SAW YOU, I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WOULD WORK.


ASUKA
THANKS FOR THE MEAL.
OH YEAH.
I COMPLETELY FORGOT!! JUST IN CASE, CAN I GET YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION.
LIKEWISE, THANK YOU SO MUCH.
ALSO, HERE'S 3000 YEN FOR DOING THIS.
AND DON'T TELL ME THAT "YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO CANCEL THE FEATURE," OKAY.
Achoo
Achoo
MEETING WITH AKAGI-SAN,
WAS ONE OF OUR TURNING POINTS.

JUST AS I IMAGINED, I WAS EMBARRASSED BUT ONCE I GOT OVER IT, IT BECAME A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INCOME.

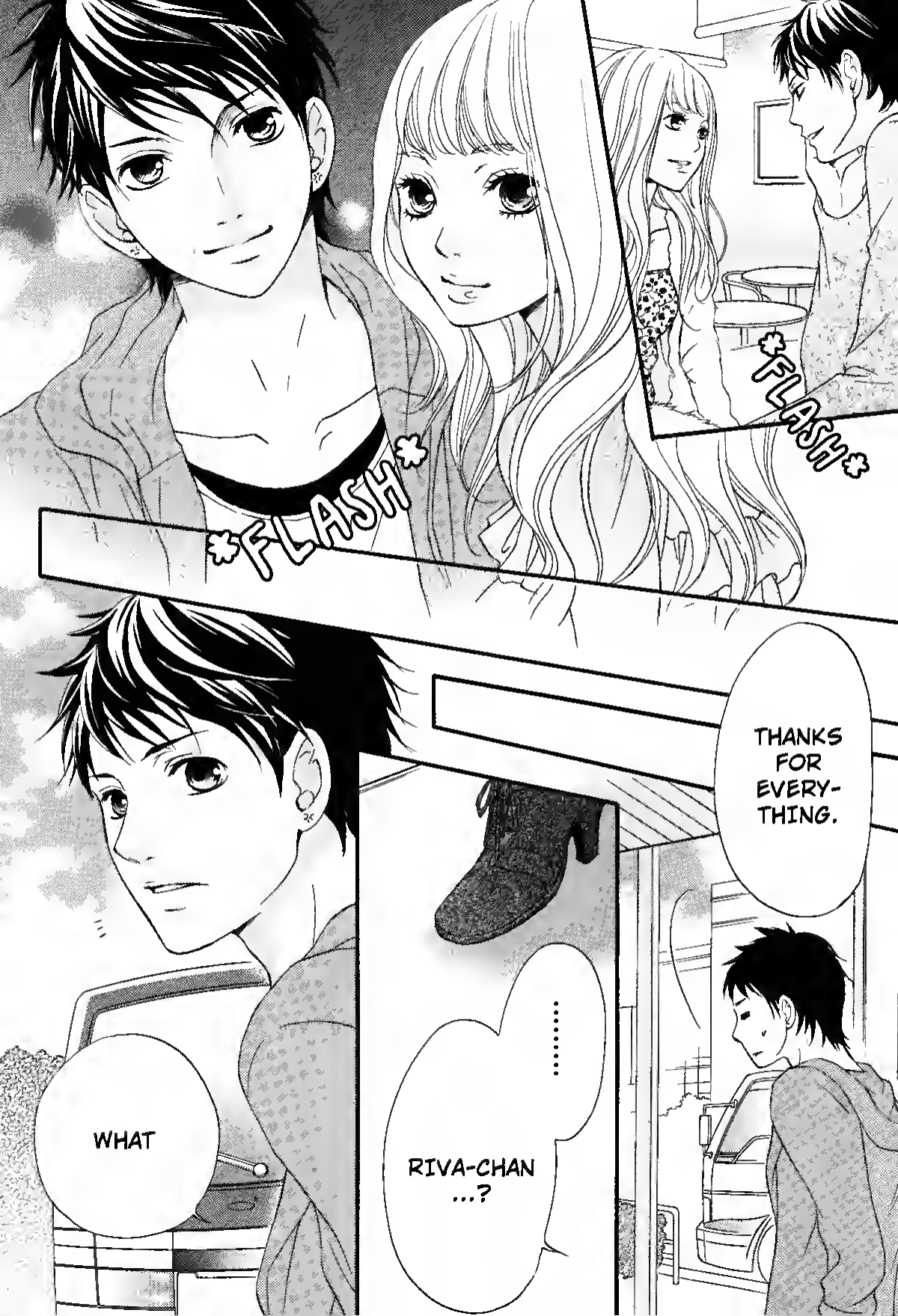
FROM THEN ON, WE BEGAN MODELING PART TIME FOR AKAGI-SAN.

BY EARLY AUTUMN, EVERY WEEK-END WE HAD BEEN GOING OUT TO PHOTO SHOOTS.



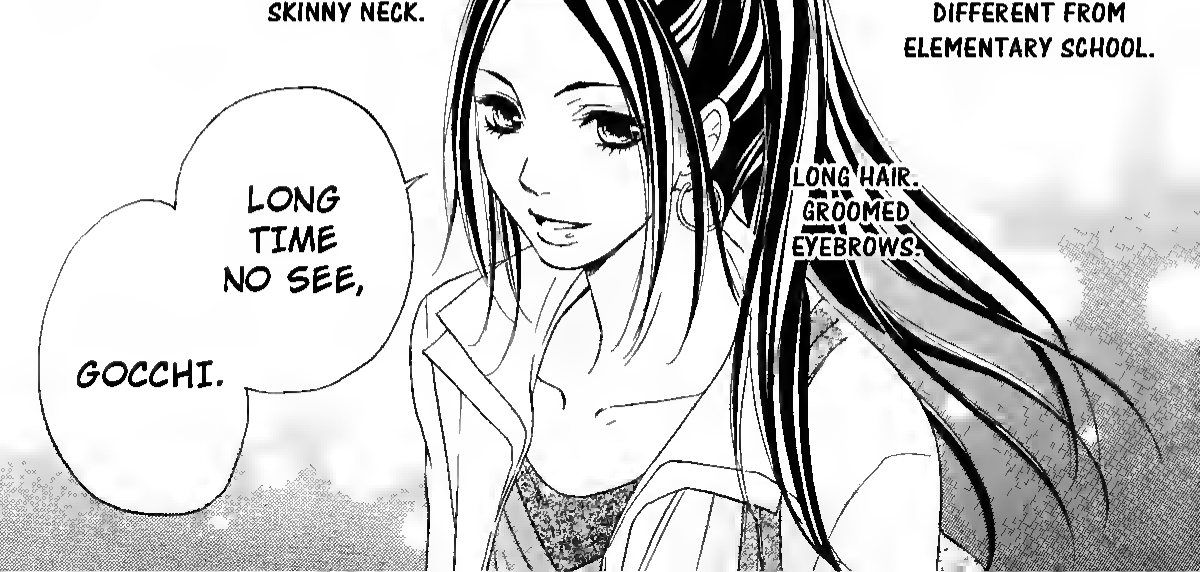
THAT VERY DAY WAS ALSO A SATUR-DAY,

WE WERE ACTING AS BOYFRIENDS FOR THE FEMALE MODELS A A CAFÉ FACING KOMAZAWA STREET.


FLASH
FLASH
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
.....
RIVA-CHAN ...?
WHAT

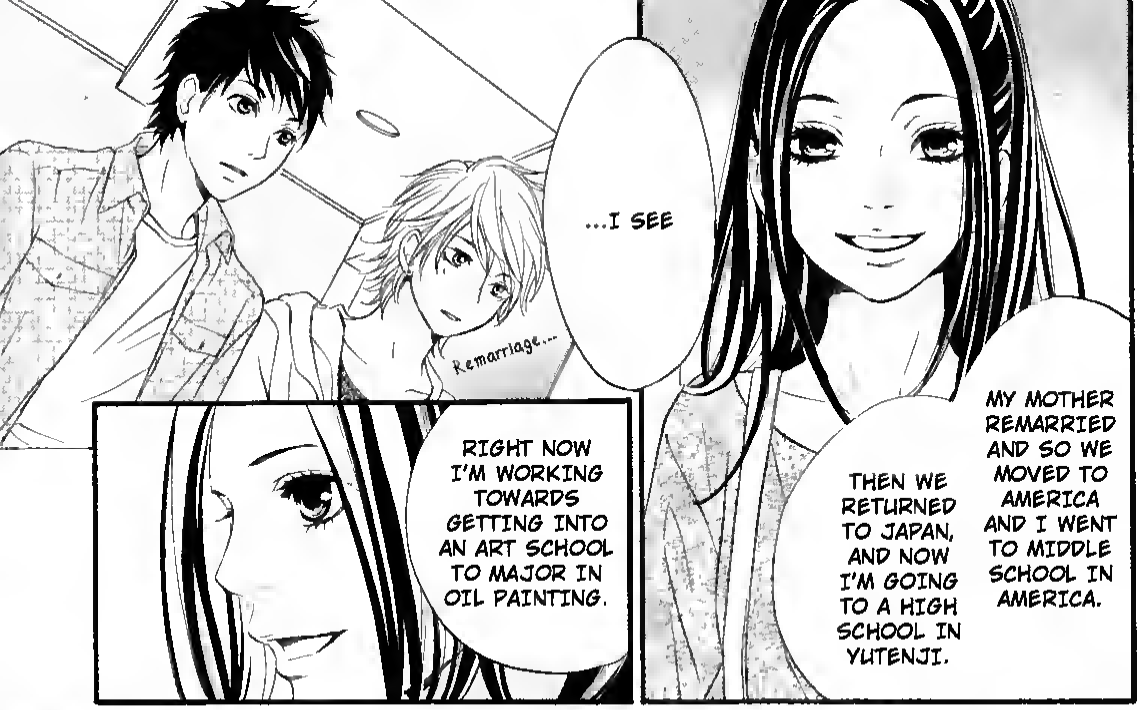
!?
WHAT
HOW ARE YOU!?
WHO IS SHE!?
PRETTY. FRIENDLY.
WHAT?
DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT ABOUT ME?
geez
RIVA-CHAN, RIGHT!?
LONG TIME NO SEE.
...?
カラ〜ン

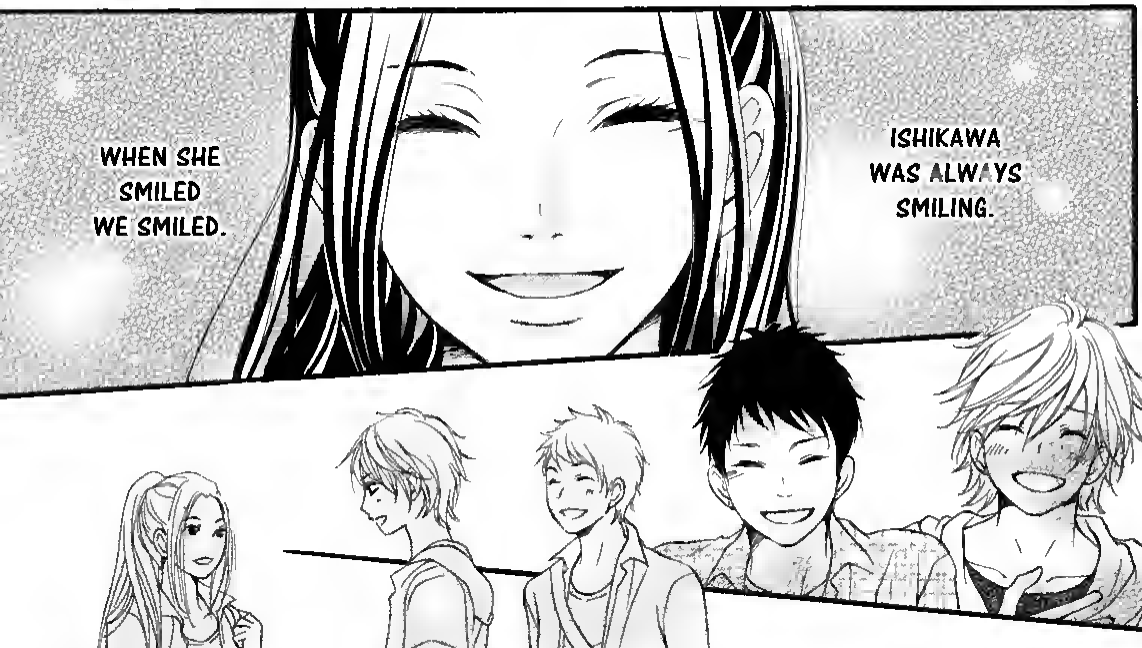
WHAT
ISHIKAWA!?
!?
YOU SHOULD'VE REALIZED SOONER.
.....
...SALLY?


THIN BODY. SKINNY NECK.
SHE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
LONG HAIR. GROOMED EYEBROWS.
LONG TIME NO SEE, GOCCHI.

DAMN, THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH TO TAKE IN.
Dumbfounded
Umm...
OH REALLY...
I WAS JUST WALKING BY WITH MY HIGH SCHOOL FRIENDS.
ME?
ISHIKAWA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT ABOUT AMERICA?
WHAT?
ARE YOU GUYS MODELS?
YEA-...
NO.
HEY YOU TWO, WE'RE CHANGING LOCATIONS NOW!
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE HER AGAIN.
...YUP
BEEP
OK
LET'S JUST EXCHANGE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NOW.
WE'LL EXPLAIN LATER.
WHAT? DO YOU KNOW THEM?
YUP, FROM ELEMENT-ARY SCHOOL.

WHAT A BORING REACTION.
Spaced out
IS THAT PRETTY GIRL ONE OF YOUR GIRLFRIEND? OR A FAN?
NO...
*VROOM...
OUT OF THE FOUR OF US, ISHIKAWA RIKA WAS THE MOST BOYISH.
GOCCHI HAD BEEN WITH HER SINCE BEFORE HE COULD EVEN REMEMBER AND HE CALLED HER SALLY.
8 YEARS SINCE WE SEPARATED WAYS...
SALLY, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING EVER SINCE.
BUT IT'S JUST A PART TIME JOB FOR US AMATEURS.
OH
SO THAT'S HOW YOU GOT INTO MODELING.


...I SEE
Remarriage...
MY MOTHER REMARRIED AND SO WE MOVED TO AMERICA AND I WENT TO MIDDLE SCHOOL IN AMERICA.
THEN WE RETURNED TO JAPAN, AND NOW I'M GOING TO A HIGH SCHOOL IN YUTENJI.
RIGHT NOW I'M WORKING TOWARDS GETTING INTO AN ART SCHOOL TO MAJOR IN OIL PAINTING.


ISHIKAWA WAS ALWAYS SMILING.
WHEN SHE SMILED WE SMILED.

FROM THAT DAY ON, THE THREE OF US HANG OUT ALMOST EVERY WEEK.

EVERY YEAR AT THE END OF OCTOBER, OUR HIGH SCHOOL HELD A FIRE LIGHTING FESTIVAL.
IT WAS A ROMANTIC EVENT WHERE WE SANG CHRISTMAS CAROLS WITH A CHOIR AND LIT CANDLES UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE.
UNEXPECTEDLY, ISHIKAWA SAID SHE WANTED TO GO, SO WE DECIDED TO MEET UP AT MITAKE PARK.
HEY, RIVA-CHAN, DO YOU REMEMBER?
ABOUT WHAT?
THE WHITE *MEDAKA WE WERE TAKING CARE OF IN A TANK DURING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
WE NEVER REALLY DID FIND OUT THE REASON FOR THE *MEDAKA'S SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE.
YEAH, IT WAS A BIT SCARY SINCE IT WAS REALLY WHITE BUT ITS EYES WERE RED.
FOLLOWING THE DISAPPEAR-ANCE OF THE *MEDAKA,
SALLY ALSO DISAPPEARED.

*TL NOTE: MEDAKA IS ALSO KNOWN JAPANESE RICE FISH / JAPANESE KILLIFISH

I WAS ALWAYS WITH SALLY, THEN KIMOTO AND RIVA-CHAN CAME INTO THE PICTURE.
WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER,
AND I TOOK IT FOR GRANTED WHEN SHE WAS THERE.
...YEAH.
THAT'S RIGHT

"LET'S MEET AGAIN SOON."

DID ISHIKAWA CHANGE?

THEY SHARED A PAST THAT I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT.

SHE WAS SALLY.

CAN YOU REALLY FILL UP THE 8 YEARS?

CRUNCH
THERE YOU ARE!
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT, I GOT YOU BOTH SOME CORN SOUP.
THANK YOU
It feels so awkward.
SLOSH
SLOSH
HEY BOTH OF YOU, YOU SHOULD REMOVE YOUR PIERCING.
IT LOOKS BETTER THAT WAY.
WHY?
GUYS LOOK HOTTER WITH JUST THE PIERCE HOLE RATHER THAN WEARING THE PIERCING.
?
ASSHOLE?
LAUGHS.
Cough.. Cough
28

FINE THEN.
POUT
AHA
AHAHAHA
YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THAT WITH A STRAIGHT FACE.
That made me laugh.
WHAT?
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
EH....
TELL ME.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST CHECK IT LATER.
WHO KNOWS~
He's all pouty now.
WHISPER
WHISPER
HERE,
I'LL WHISPER IT TO YOU.
?
!
BLUSH

Ahahaha
DON'T EVER SAY THAT TO A FOREIGNER.
Ahaha
BLUSH

ISHIKAWA, DO YOU REMEMBER THE WHITE MEDAKA?
OH YEAH,
•Sigh•

THEY VANISHED.
THEY BECAME INVISIBLE.
THEY DIDN'T JUST GO MISSING.

YEAH I REMEMBER, THE ALBINO. IT DIS-APPEARED.
I WONDER WHERE THEY WENT.

DO YOU KNOW WHY ALBINOS THROW AWAY THEIR PIGMENTS AND ARE SUDDENLY BORN DIFFERENT-LY?
SHAKES
SHAKES
IT'S BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T NEED COLORS THAT ARE VISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE.
LISTEN? THE COLORS VISIBLE TO OUR EYES ARE COLORS COMING FROM REFLECTED LIGHT.
OBVIOUS-LY.
SHUT UP AND LISTEN.
SO THAT MEANS, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE COLORS THAT WERE NOT ABSORBED.
SO WHAT THAT ENTAILS IS, THE COLORS THAT THE SUBSTANCE DISLIKES WILL BE DEFLECTED AND THAT'S WHAT WE SEE.
PEOPLE ONLY SEE THE COLORS THAT THEY THEMSELVES HATE.
IRONIC RIGHT.

THAT MEDAKA JUST COULDN'T STAND STARING AT ITS OWN SELF SHOWING THE COLORS THEY HATE.
SO THAT'S WHY THEY GOT RID OF THEIR PIGMENTS.
BUT EVEN IF YOU GET RID OF YOUR PIGMENTS YOU DON'T BECOME INVISIBLE.
SO THE MEDAKA DECIDED TO ABSORB ALL THE COLORS.

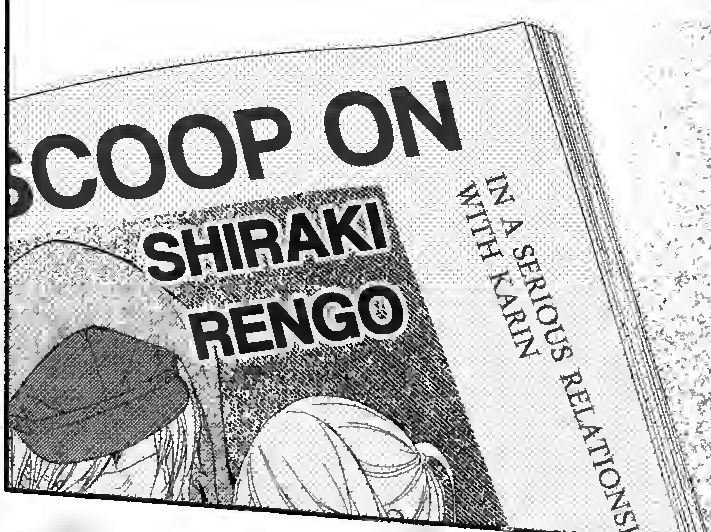
BUT I COULD BARELY UNDERSTAND HALF OF WHAT SHE SAID.
THEY WERE PROBABLY WASHED DOWN THE DRAINS.
I ONLY REALIZED THAT AFTER I SWITCHED SCHOOLS, SO WE DID SOMETHING BAD TO THE MEDAKA.
THAT'S HOW IT IS.
AND THAT'S HOW THEY BECAME INVISIBLE.
WATCHING ISHIKAWA SERIOUSLY WORRY ABOUT THE MEDAKA WAS A BIT STRANGE.
GOCCHI JUST STARED INTENTLY AT HER AND EATING IT ALL UP.

IS THAT WHY YOU DISAPPEARED, SALLY?
THUD
WHY
MAYBE. BUT I CAME BACK.
YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO?

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
OF COURSE NOT
OF COURSE ... NOT
ALL I CAN DO IS ACCEPT MY OWN COLORS.
AND SHOW THOSE COLORS THE BEST I CAN.
LIKE HERE ARE MY COLORS.

THAT'S AMAZING
.....

OF COURSE, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED.
WHAT DO YOU THINK? MY COLORS AREN'T SO BAD RIGHT?
I SEE.
SO THIS IS WHY GOCCHI'S PAST RELATION-SHIPS HAVEN'T WORKED OUT.
SLURP
THAT DAY
I DECIDED NOT TO GO TO THE FIRE LIGHTING FESTIVAL.
I HAD FAINTLY BUT SURELY BELIEVED THAT WOULD BE THE CASE.
THE RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN THOSE TWO WOULD REMAIN THE SAME.
GOOD NIGHT
IT'S FINE, YOU TWO SHOULD JUST GO.
RIVA-CHAN, ARE YOU REALLY GOING HOME?
I'm the one feeling cold.
Riva-chan!!



BUT NOW

ISHIKAWA SARI WAS NOT BY HIS SIDE.

THE PERSON BY HIS SIDE

WAS THE POP PRINCESS KARIN.

HIS COLORS HAD CHANGED...

AND FROM HERE ON, HE WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO REGAIN THE COLORS THAT ISHIKAWA HAD LOVED.

END OF CHAPTER 3

加藤シゲアキ

Pink and Gray
Shigeaki Kato

ピンクとグレー

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CHAPTER 3
PRESENTED BY : Lost 'n Found

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Lost 'n' Found

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